

FD 699

CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1

TOPIC Soviet Border Guard Troops in ThuringiaEVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT see below

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 October 1949

REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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21 August to 4 September 1949

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HILDBURGHAUSEN (M 51/J 10) area:

a. The personnel of the BOCKSTADT (M 51/J 20) border sector headquarters was relieved on 22 August 1949. Forty troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets belonged to the new border sector headquarters.

b. All other border sector headquarters in the HILDBURGHAUSEN area were dissolved between 21 and 24 August 1949. The personnel boarded 33 railroad cars in HILDBURGHAUSEN and left in the direction of WEININGEN (M 51/H 82).

c. The following Soviet offices and units were located in HILDBURGHAUSEN on 4 September 1949:

(1) County kommandatura in the former hospital on Seminarstrasse, corner of Bismarckstrasse. The kommandatura was staffed with one major and nine lieutenants. 1st Lt OSTRINSKI was interpreter.

(2) Kommandatura guard unit of about 100 troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets.

(3) MVD office staffed with four officers, one interpreter and ten EM.

(4) The BOCKSTADT border sector headquarters was also located in the HILDBURGHAUSEN county.

d. There was very little motor vehicle traffic going in the direction of EISFELD (M 51/J 20).        truck        was observed on 24 August 1949 and        tank truck        on 26 August 1949.

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No Change in Class.

☒ DeclassifiedClass. Changed To: ISAuth.: HR 70-2Date: 6 June 78

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15 to 31 August 1949

2. BENKA-VACHA (L 51/H 34) area:

a. The Soviet border guard personnel from the BENKA-VACHA area left for MIHLA (L 52/H 37) on 15 August 1949 and boarded a train for an unknown destination.

b. A Soviet border sector headquarters was still located in MIHLA on 31 August 1949.

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20 August 1949

3. GULDSLEHLEN-EILDRICH (L 52/D 03) area: A Soviet border sector headquarters was located in GULDSLEHLEN. Border guard personnel in the strength of two officers and 20 E3 were employed in this area. Half of the personnel were quartered in GULDSLEHLEN to be employed in case of need. The troops were armed with submachine guns and carbines and one 88-mm gun on self-propelled mount.

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4. EISENACH (L 51/H 73) area: The zonal border between the EISENACH area and ACHENHOLN (L 52/C 93) was guarded by personnel of a GOtha (L 51/J 06) infantry regiment. The personnel on border duty was relieved every six weeks.

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Comment:

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a. [ ] reported in mid-August 1949 that the personnel of the BOCKSTADT border sector headquarters had been relieved. Besides component units of the 117th Gds Mtz Rifle Bn/39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, an MGB office is known to be located in HILDBURCHHAUSEN (in the county court building).

b. The Soviet border guard troops in the BENKA-VACHA area are known from previous reports. They are believed to have been furnished by a component unit of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

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[ ] reported that a border area headquarters in the strength of about two companies was located in the "Red Castle", MIHLA, in July 1948. [ ] reported that a border headquarters controlling the zonal border in the EISENACH county was located in MIHLA in February 1949.

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c. The observations along the zonal border of Northern Thuringia up to 20 August 1949 do not indicate any change in the employment of Soviet troops on border guard duty. The border guard personnel is believed to be furnished by component units of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

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